We the People

Jewel

December 19, 1936 Volume 1, No. 21 Price 10c

INTO the Carlisle Trust Company of Carlisle, Pa., 26 years ago rushed a slim, looseleaf-ledger salesman named Herbert F. Rawll, to present a brand new savings idea. Conceived by Carlisle bank cashier Merkel Landis, promoted by the dynamic Rawll, the stunt aimed to stand the shade of Benjamin Franklin on its head. Franklin, most frugal of the Colonials, preached saving to prepare for a rainy day, to build a bulwark against the unpleasant. Prepare for pleasure, countered Rawll. Start saving on New Year's day to prepare for a Merry Christmas.

To skeptical, conservative bankers Rawll envisioned a flood of nickels, dimes, quarters coming in weekly from small-salaried wage earners who otherwise would not save at all. "A five-cent, nickelodeon, claptrap idea," one banker called it. Rawll persisted, signed up 100 banks within a year, organized Christmas Club, A Corporation, in 1914. During the past two weeks an army of 700,000 Pennsylvania club-member adherents of Rawll's "nickelodeon idea" streamed into banks to collect their Christmas fund of $36,200,000. Throughout the country 355 million was distributed by 5500 banks to some 7½ million pleasure-bound depositors, one out of every eighteen Americans. In the rich Philadelphia district, 150,000 stormed bank tellers, took out 7 million dollars; in Lehigh County, $408,000; Berks County, $882,000; in Pittsburgh the Peoples-Pittsburgh Trust Company alone disbursed $475,000.

An index of prosperity, Christmas Club funds surmounted last year's accumulation by 14 percent. 1934 had bettered 1933 by 6 percent. What this momentum-gathering upswing means in terms of buying power can be gauged best by Christmas Club's President Rawll, who bases his analysis upon a direct-mail questionnaire sent out to representative numbers of club members. Rawll estimates that the average dollar of 355,-million will be (much of it already has been) expended as follows:

For Christmas purchases will go 43 cents; into permanent savings will go 25 cents; year end commitments will take 8 cents; taxes will eat up 12 cents; mortgage interest will account for 6 cents; insurance premiums will take 5 cents; for education, travel, and charity, the last 2 cents.

Retail merchants already enjoying a hyperactive trade, watched their shelves emptying under the buying power released by the Christmas Clubs, unaware of their moral obligation to erect statues to fully-vindicated Herbert F. Rawll. While economists and staticians looked on with a gleam in their figure-eyes, cash registers began ringing up early Christmas sales for toys, clothes, hats,, shoes, books, food, candy, lipstick, jewelry, furniture, as dammed up buying desire gushed down wide-open spillways. Even such diverse lines as electric output (for tree lighting and street decoration), rails (travel home for Christmas), and newspapers (Christmas advertising lineage), could expect peaking lines on their last-quarter graphs.

Little more than an endproduct, a minor wave of the groundswell created by workaday America pulling out of its worst business crisis, the Christmas Club bonanza is really a result of a network of varied economic factors rather than of Thrift Triumphant. The recent history of this network is an amazing story of recovery, progress. Look at some of the important ramifications:

STOCK MARKET. The day after the reelection of "The Man Who Ruined America," a wave of buying enthusiasm swept the stock market, boosting industrial stocks $1 to $5, carrying many stock issues to new recovery zeniths. Five days later, prices surged on to a new high, skyrocketing Pennsylvania Salt, Gimbel Brothers. Quoted prices of 1,196 stocks listed on the Stock Exchange had upped $3 billion during October to reach a value of $58 billion. While stock quotations are not the best indicators of business conditions, the rise from last October's value of $43 billion is not without import.

DIVIDENDS. November 5 & 6 saw 22 large corporations declare extra dividends to stockholders or resume payments after a long depression lapse. With 36 more firms handing out 1936 earnings November 12, a $3 billion dividend for the year loomed as a certainty and four billion as a probability. November dividends aggregated $800 million, a new record. Jubilant stockholders expect a Christmas dividend of half a billion.

WAGES. Day after the election Pittsburgh steel masters began speaking of a general wage increase for Pennsylvania's legion of steel workers. . . . Eight big companies scrambled to make announcements of boosts that would reach

(Continued on Page 14)

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CHANGE...

IN our issue of October 15, plans were announced for a weekly WE THE PEOPLE to take place of the present fortnightly edition.

Readers and subscribers were asked for expressions of opinion on the proposed change — whether they favored it — whether they would support it.

On the strength of the response to these two questions, WE THE PEOPLE, commencing with the next issue which will bear the date of January 4, 1937, will appear as a weekly — a weekly review of events transpiring in the Keystone State — a weekly presentation of feature articles dealing with all phases of life in this commonwealth.

In the October 15 announcement, it was stated that the per copy price of the new weekly would in all probability be reduced.

The per copy price of WE THE PEOPLE will **not** be changed. It will remain at ten cents.

There are two reasons for this decision:

First: WE THE PEOPLE will contain fifty per cent more pages of features and news review than the present edition.

Second: (And this is the more important reason) — A per copy price of ten cents will permit the economic success of this publication without dependence upon advertisers. (Not that our columns will be closed to advertisers. On the contrary, with our circulation now well over the hundred thousand mark and with a legion of readers in each of the 67 counties of this commonwealth WE THE PEOPLE will solicit the accounts of all reputable advertisers).

But we know — and our readers know — that if WE THE PEOPLE is to maintain its fearless and vigorous editorial attitude towards the many predatory interests seeking to exploit the citizens of this commonwealth, it is vital that we have but one obligation — and that obligation be to the readers of this publication.

WE THE PEOPLE will be worth ten cents a week of anyone's money. Neither rich or poor nor those neither rich nor poor can afford to be without it. Nor can any person desiring to be well-informed concerning the contemporary events in his or her home state afford to be a non-reader.

For those who wish to subscribe for mail delivery, the price is $3.50 per year; $1.00 for three months — payable in advance.

Use either form below for entering your order for the new WE THE PEOPLE. (Important: Paid-up subscriptions to the present publication will be continued and delivered by mail until expiration date).

By Carrier

We the People, Inc.,
Harrisburg, Penna.

Please have We the People delivered each week to address given below. I will pay boy ten cents per copy for same.

----------, 1937 ----------

By Mail

We the People, Inc.,
Harrisburg, Penna.

Enclosed find ☐check ☐money order ☐cash in amount of $3.50 for one year's subscription, or $1 for three months' subscription to We the People.

----------, 1937 ----------

INSURANCE Against IDLENESS

Pennsylvania's New Unemployment Compensation Law Protects More Than Two Million Workers

AT 2:30 a. m., December 5, on the morning of his 46th birthday, Governor George Hansell Earle sat down to his ornate desk in the Capitol, and, with beaming Senators and Representatives looking on, took up his pen to sign Pennsylvania's first unemployment compensation law. "This," said the Governor, "is the happiest birthday of my life."

What he had signed was an act which taxes 300,000 Pennsylvania employers to assure 2,500,000 employes that beginning January 1, 1938, they will be compensated during any period of unemployment which exceeds three weeks (six weeks in some cases).

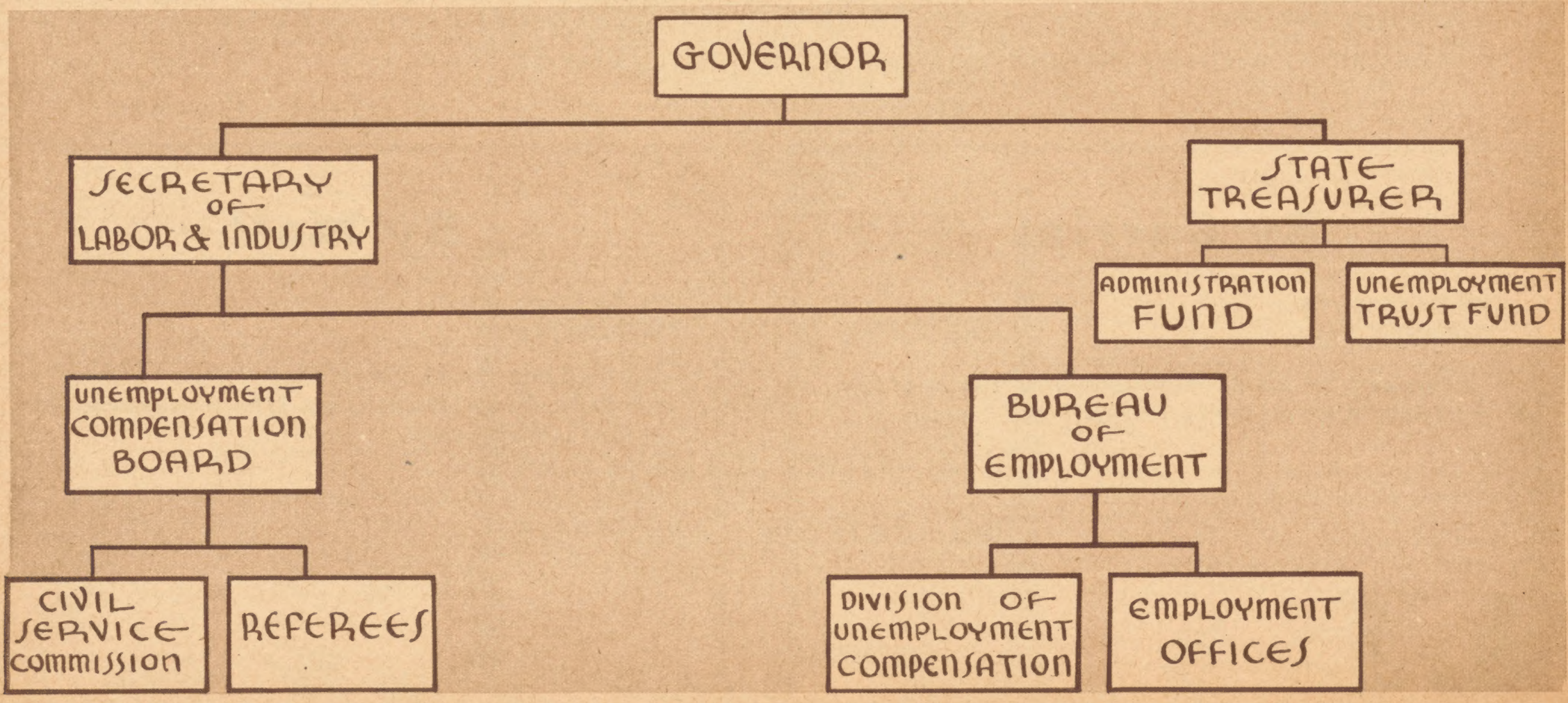
Passing the act meant a savings of some $22,500,000 in taxes for the year, which would otherwise have gone into the Federal Treasury, but which now reverts to the State. The $189,000 special session of five days was the shortest since the first 2-day Assembly called by the State's first Governor, Thomas Mifflin, in 1797. This 19th extraordinary Legislature was the first Democratic controlled Assembly since 1845. When the final rollcall was over, there was but one dissenting vote in either house—that of Republican Representative E. Kent Kane of McKean county, where a town is named after his family.

Not without a minor ruckus was this most important bill passed, though its way had been smoothed by Democratic campaign promises, its writing aided by experts from Washington, where the Federal Government has already set up the complicated machinery of Social Security. One group of Democratic Senators struck out from the bill its provision that employes administering Unemployment Compensation should come under civil service. At a meeting in the Governor's office from which welled angry voices and excited angry faces, the provision was reinstated. Meantime the smothered Republican opposition produced little more than Senate Floor Leader Clarence J. Buckman's weak-muscled warning: "Realizing that at the regular session which will meet within the next month such amendments can be offered as public welfare may demand, we are voting for the bill." Truth is that for the first time in generations the Republicans are powerless to stop legislation in the Senate.

"Economic insecurity due to unemployment is a serious menace to the health, morals and welfare of the people of the Commonwealth," says the policy-stating preamble of House Bill No. 1 of the December, 1936, special session. "The principle of the accumulation of financial reserves, the sharing of risks and the payment of compensation with respect to unemployment meets the general need of protection against the hazards of unemployment and indigency. The Legislature therefore declares that in its considered judgment the public good and the general welfare of the citizens of this Commonwealth require the exercise of the police powers of the Commonwealth in the enactment of this act for the compulsory setting aside of unemployment reserves to be used for the benefit of persons unemployed through no fault of their own."

Herewith the gist of the Unemployment Compensation Bill of 1936:

BELOW: Probable administrative set-up under the Unemployment Compensation Law.



Taxes are levied on every employer in Pennsylvania to build up the unemployment compensation fund. Employers of one to seven persons will pay: Nine-tenths of one percent of their 1936 payrolls, 1.8 percent of 1937's payrolls, and 2.7 percent of payrolls in 1938 and after to the State government. Employers of eight or more persons will pay an additional one-tenth of one percent to the Federal Government to cover administrative costs of the system. Enough of this amount will revert to the State to pay for administration of its system.

The difference of one-tenth of one persons between small employers and employers of eight or more persons is required by a provision of the Pennsylvania Constitution which says that any tax must be imposed alike on the same class of taxpayers. Thus the extra one-tenth is a Federal tax; only the nine-tenths is a State tax. The Federal unemployment insurance bill covers only employers of eight or more persons. The Federal bill provides that in any State which enacts an unemployment compensation law, the employer may credit 90 percent of his State tax against his Federal tax. Thus if Pennsylvania had not enacted an unemployment compensation law, its employers would have paid the same tax on 1936 payrolls—amounting to some $22,500,000—but the entire tax would have gone into the Federal Treasury. The money would have been lost to this State.

Beneficiaries of the Unemployment Compensation Law are the workers themselves. Unlike the Old Age Pension title of the Federal Social Security law, which requires both worker and employer to pay a 3 percent payroll tax as an investment against the day the worker is old and unable to earn, the Unemployment Compensation Law requires no contribution from the workers. The only employers exempt from paying the tax, and thus the only employes exempt from its benefits, are those in farm labor, domestic service, marine employment, Federal, State and local governments, employers of close relatives, and non-profit humane, religious, educational, charitable, scientific and literary institutions. These number about one-third of Pennsylvania's workers.

Eligibility for Compensation. Any worker in the two-thirds of the State's workers provided for under the bill becomes eligible for compensation after three weeks' unemployment (the three weeks may be accumulated during the calendar year), if—

(1). He has earned in wages during the preceding base year wages equal to 13 times his weekly compensation amount. His compensation amount is one-half of his full-time weekly wage, but cannot exceed $15 per week nor be less than $7.50. The $15 maximum is established in the Federal Social Security Law. The $7.50 minimum is established by the State. So far only Ohio and Rhode Island have fixed the same minimum amount as Pennsylvania.

(2). He has registered for work at a designated employment office, and has found no work available.

(3). He has made a claim for compensation in the proper manner.

(4). He is able to work and available for work.

Persons who are unemployed because of a strike in which they are directly involved must accumulate six weeks of unemployment before they are available for compensation under the law. An unemployed person must accept suitable work when it is offered, or be stricken from the compensation rolls. Suitable work is defined as work which he is capable of performing, except when: (1) the job is open because of a strike, lockout or other labor dispute; (2) wages, hours or other conditions of work are less favorable than those prevailing; (3) or if he should have to join a company union to get the job, or refrain from joining a bona fide labor union.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION FOR THEM TOO
Workers on strike get compensation after they have been idle six weeks. No employe loses compensation if he refuses a strike-breaking job.

To get compensation, the unemployed worker must file a claim with the Department of Labor and Industry, which administers the act. It will determine the validity of the claim, and the rate and amount of the payments and when they shall begin. Such decisions are to be final unless an appeal is filed within 10 days. Such an appeal will be heard by a compensation referee, whose decision is final unless another appeal is filed within 10 days before the board of review. This decision can be appealed to the Superior Court (within 30 days); the court shall judge only the law in the case.

How Taxes Are Handled. All contributions paid into the Unemployment Compensation Fund will be deposited with the Unemployment Trust Fund of the U. S. Treasury. From this fund the State Department of Labor and Industry will requisition money for compensation payments. This money will be deposited in the State Unemployment Compensation Fund, and all compensation payments will be made from it.

Employers must file returns for their 1936 payroll taxes before January 31, 1937.

No employe may waive his right to compensation. No employer may deduct from the wages of his employes to finance his contributions to the Fund. Fees charged workers by attorneys representing them in unemployment compensation cases must be approved by the Compensation Board of Review.

The Unemployment Compensation Law of Pennsylvania will continue even if the unemployment compensation features of the Federal Social Security Act are repealed or declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court. Upon such an event, the State Department of Labor and Industry would requisition from the Federal fund the money held in trust for Pennsylvania workers, and our State system would continue independently.

Administration and Jobs. New departments of government mean new administrative procedure, new jobs. Most important jobs in the Unemployment Compensation Law will be those of the three members of the Board of Review, expected to be announced shortly. The jobs pay $9,000 (chairman) and $8,500 for the two other members, are for six years. Referees must be appointed to hear appeals. And the Federal-State Employment Service, now employing about 900 persons, will be increased to about 2,100. These administrative employes will come under civil service. Those present employes who have never taken a civil service examination must take one to hold their jobs. Temporary appointments are permitted until civil service examinations can be completed.

On Page 4 is shown a chart of the tentative administrative organization for the Unemployment Compensation Law. This set-up is not yet definite.

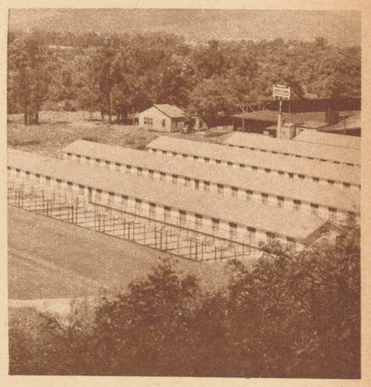
Registration and contribution blanks, together with instructions for filling them out, are being mailed out to employers. Trained staffs will be ready in State and local offices to assist. Employers should not make contribution returns before December 31, since the report must include the entire 1936 payroll. Salary payments of all kinds, including money, board lodging, etc., must be included in the returns.

Secretary of Labor and Industry Ralph M Bashore assured employers that records and reports submitted to the department for ascertaining contribution amounts will be treated in confidence. The Unemployment Compensation Law provides fine or imprisonment for employes of the department who reveal such information.

Thus, as a Christmas gift to Pennsylvania workers, the Unemployment Compensation Law went into effect. Not touted as the final word in such legislation, it saves Pennsylvania $22,500,000 it might otherwise have lost, provides a basis for future legislation to soften the impact of unemployment when it strikes.

THE Hen in PENNSYLVANIA

REVIEWING A $74,000,000 PENNSYLVANIA INDUSTRY



THROUGH THESE PORTALS
Pass the most beautiful hens in the world.

TO the average citizen the hen is subject of either an inane gag (why does she cross the road); else of an insoluble biological riddle (which comes first, the chicken or the egg?). She is also the producer of the 200 eggs he consumes annually; and the invariable ingredient of such standard U. S. dishes as chicken-and-waffles, pot pie, soup, or the 75c chicken dinner served at every roadside eatery.

While the average citizen may consider the hen variously as a joke, a nuisance under his auto wheels, a golden blob of fluff at Easter, or the producer of one standard article of diet, herself to become finally another standard article of diet, to some 80 percent of Pennsylvania's farmers the hen is a business; and to some 10,000 other Pennsylvanians, a Big Business.

For in Pennsylvania, the Hen is the prima donna of an industry with a $74,000,000 capital investment. For some 156,000 Pennsylvania farmers last year she provided 27,424,000 chickens. She produced 134,667,000 dozen eggs, valued at $35,552,000. Of these, 109,834,000 dozen were sold for $28,996,000. Of the chickens raised 18,765,000 were sold for $13,511,000.

The $31,703,000 cash income which the Hen brought to Pennsylvania farmers was three times as much as he made on beef cattle, sheep and swine combined. Of all the States, says Secretary of Agriculture J. Hansell French, Iowa alone exceeds Pennsylvania in its poultry wealth.

People prefer eagles to hens as national birds. Swans, not hens, are the royal bird in England, all theoretically in fief to the king. The Capitoline geese warned Rome of an invading army. Few bards sing the Hen—she of giddy humor, clucking complacency, inveterate cackling gossip. The fighting cock who lives only to fight has had bestowed on him the adulation men reserve for the possessors of the high, wasteful virtues. But not the Hen. Yet mighty is the Hen, as we have seen, as we shall see.

For since man first caught and domesticated the jungle fowl in the hot forests of India, where lived the modern hen's ancestors, the humble hen has clucked her foolish way in the vanguard of civilization. Empires have fallen, whole cities have sunk beneath the sea, Babylon is a whisper on history's weary tongue, new continents were explored, races have risen and decayed, kings have been crowned and their crowns slipped away, we grew a new nation in our Western world in which from the first cellars where the Pilgrims lived have risen man's highest towers. And still mighty is the Hen—mightier than ever.

Today millions are gambled on poultry and poultry products by produce brokers. From the hen came one-half of a typical expression of the feverish twenties—"big butter and egg man." A sick chicken was the basis of a Supreme Court decision which affected America mightily, and may affect it more mightily yet. And every day, year in and year out, carloads of eggs and chickens rumble into the great metropolises of the nation. To the Hen's glory colleges devote intensive research. And in Pennsylvania she is the heroine of a year-long contest which has been under way for six years at the four long barracks which are the headquarters of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Egg-Laying Contest.

Sightseers entering one of the four long laying houses might well imagine themselves in a prison's cell block. Straight ahead stretches a narrow corridor, 200 feet long; on one side a blank wall, on the other door after door leading into the pens.

No prison is the laying house. Rather would the poultry men of Pennsylvania compare it to a factory. Every factory has its production problem. The poultryman's problem: to turn his hen from a temperamental gadabout who lays when and where she listeth into an efficient machine into which, with scientific exactitude, he can cram an exact amount of feed which will produce an exact number and quality of eggs.

The best scientific gauge in the United States today of the progress being made in poultry breeding is the annual egg-laying contest near the Farm Show Building on the outskirts of Harrisburg. There in 79 pens 1,027 birds of six different breeds lay an average of 600-700 eggs per day in the interest of science, of the poultry business, and for the glorification of the Hen.

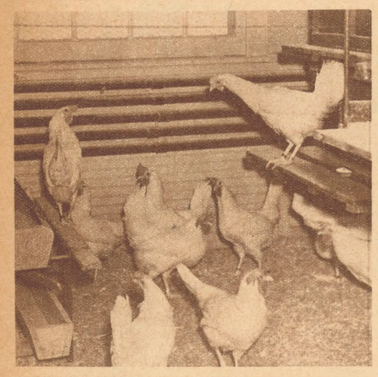
Over the doors of the laying houses might well be inscribed the words, "Through these portals pass the most beautiful hens in the world." Even to the ordinary city dweller to whom the egg is something that comes out of the frying pan onto his breakfast plate, the scientific care that is lavished on the barnyard bluebloods is an interesting study. In the tidy, steam-heated, electrically lighted pens are healthy young pullets shipped to the contest from 17 States; and with them, trained attendants to feed them, keep score on production, and mail weekly reports to entry owners throughout the nation.

To enter a pen (13 birds) costs $20 for the first pen, $10 for the second. A concession to the alert, 10,000-member Pennsylvania State Poultry Association, it brought the price for additional pens down from last year's $20. (The Poultry Association issues a yearbook, a bi-monthly magazine, sponsors educational programs at State College and the Farm Show, conducts a summer tour of the best poultry farms, lobbies assiduously for legislation to protect and control the industry.)

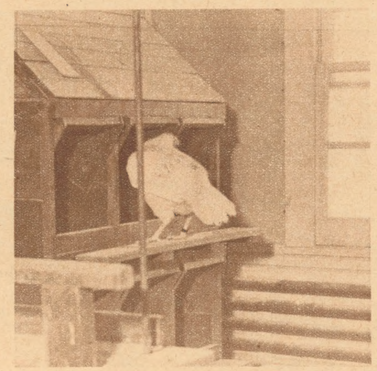
The 13 pullets which enter the pen at the start of the contest are just reaching the age of maturity, which varies from 18 to 23 weeks. (Strictly a female seminary is the contest; no cocks enter the laying houses.) The ten hens that prove the best layers are used in scoring the official records for a pen. Point scoring, employed at the contest, is based on one credit point for every 2-ounce egg.

There are 25 individual pens in each laying house, each 12 feet deep, 8 feet wide and 7½ feet high. On the concrete floor of each pen is a wheat straw litter, changed every six or seven weeks. A drain in the center helps dry the room quickly after it has been cleaned and ventilated.

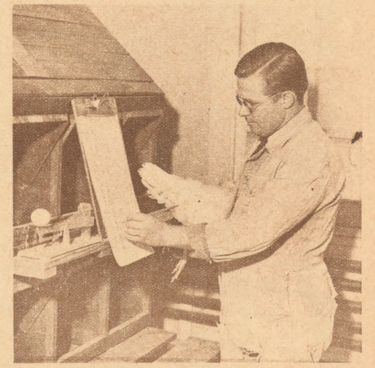
To cozen the hen's appetite are two hoppers one filled with grain, the other containing mash. Mash is fed to the pullets to increase egg productivity; to increase consumption, it is stirred twice daily. Other feeds include a fleshing ration composed of cod liver oil, calcium, yellow corn meal, rolled oats, and condensed milk. Sprouted oats are fed to the birds in winter as a green; fresh lawn clippings are added during the spring and summer.



PRIZE HENS
And here are the beautiful hens.



THE PROPER APPROACH
She looks before leaping into a trap nest.



SCORE ANOTHER EGG
Each egg is weighed and recorded.

NOTE THE BEAK GUARD
It prevents her from picking fights.

THE FINISHED PRODUCT
Eggs must be beautiful too; hence candling.

Object of all this care is the egg. On every pen's door (wooden in winter, wire mesh for coolness in summer) are cards giving the name and address of the pen owner, the weights of the individual birds, the weight of the food last placed in the pen, the date it was put there. But all these records point up to one other record: egg production.

To chart egg production, the trap nest was invented. Six line each pen wall. Into these the pullets hop to lay. As they whisk their tails against the entry board, it springs a trap, imprisons the hen. Hens, usually nervous as children in a graveyard, take their imprisonment calmly. Calmly they lay their egg, croon contentedly when the laying is done, wait for attendants to release them from the trap nest. The attendant weighs the egg on a scale he carries with him, records on the tally sheet attached to the nest the points scored by the bird. The identity of every chicken is easily apparent from the number stamped on the bird's legband. But most attendants soon learn to distinguish the individual birds. Even a hen has individuality.

Within a hen's ovarian organs are some 20,000 possible eggs. But no hen ever has laid that number; no hen ever will. After her third season of high-speed production a hen usually goes on the technological scrapheap. Beginning her 51-week contest laying season with comb blooming, legs yellow with stored energy, she ends with comb faded, legs a dingy white. (One method by which poultrymen can check crudely on a hen's productivity. Another: the spread of the V between the bones at her tail.)

The hen which lays between 50 and 100 eggs a year is a liability. Average egg production of the poultryman's hen is 200—the same number as the average individual consumes in the course of a year. In the competition which ended September 30 a pen of single comb White Leghorns owned by Guy A. Leader of York, took first place with 2,826 eggs and 2,960.40 points. Leader's entry has won first place in four of the other five contests. The best bird, owned by the B. & H. Company of Tiro, Ohio, laid 322 eggs and scored 347.30 points during the 51-week period. A Rhode Island Red, owned by E. B. Parmenter of Franklin, Mass., laid the largest number of eggs—333.

Thirteen of the 20 ranking pens were Pennsylvania pens. All but one of the first 20 were single comb White Leghorns, best egg breed in the world. The single exception was the fourth place pen of Rhode Island Reds. Figures for percent production, average points per bird, average eggs per bird, and average egg weights have shown an increase each year of the contest. Poultrymen have taken advantage of the contest records to improve their breeding strains.

Money from the fees, and through the sale of eggs (16,616 eggs last year were sold to a Harrisburg restaurant chain; a few dozen weekly are delivered to the Governor's mansion) pays the salaries of the two attendants, one clerk, and of the contest director, Omar B. Nissley.

Slim, alert, businesslike, Omar Nissley graduated from Penn State's Agricultural School in 1932. Year and a half ago he left his home in Lancaster to take over his present job. He and his wife live in a neat frame house, provided by the State, a stone's throw from his royal charges.

Notes on an Egg Laying Contest:

Of the birds entered, 18 percent are doomed to die of the strain of overproduction. Not so docile as they seem, hens are cannibalistic, irritable, when confined in pens. The sight or smell of blood looses their fury, causes them to swoop on an ailing penmate, peck her to death. To prevent such killings some birds are equipped with a steel beak guard held in place by a pin that slips through the birds nostril.

A temperature of from 55 to 60 degrees is maintained through the winter months. Steam heat is pumped from a centrally located boiler. Production for high-production hens is highest during the winter, for extreme heat slows up a hen's laying ability.

High-production hens are kept on duty 12 hours a day. During winter and hazy weather artificial lighting routs them from their roosts early in the morning. An automatic switch flicks the light on at four a. m., flicks it off again at four p. m.

The birds get regular health examinations, are weighed four times a year. Food for the pens is handed out on the basis of average weights per pen.

The Hen, one may conclude, never made history. But history, which in its course packed people into tight cities, made food transportation fast and cheap, and turned the poultry business from an adjunct to ordinary farming into an intense business of its own, certainly made the Hen.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

WHEN Christmas comes to Bethlehem, Pa., the music and song that drift out over historic old Church Street echo the same sweet notes that have been heard there for almost two centuries past.

To the quaint and beautiful old Moravian Church on Christmas eve flock townspeople and folk from many miles away to take part in a ceremony that in its American tradition and sentiment has few rivals on this continent.

Time has hallowed that ceremony. It is old as the town itself, which was named on Christmas eve in 1741.

On that historic night a little group of pioneers who had fled from religious persecution in their native land assembled in a log hut on the site of the present city.

Their first Christmas in the New World was at hand. And in their midst was Ludwig, County Zinzendorf, whose Saxony estate had been a refuge for them after their exile from Moravia, before they had set sail to do missionary work in a strange and savage land.

The nobleman had arrived only a few days before. So Christmas eve was a double occasion for joy and gladness. The prayers of those gathered in the crude hut in the wilderness were full of thanksgiving and hope for the future.

It was that night that the revered Zinzendorf, in memory of another little town, Bethlehem in Judea, gave the name of Bethlehem to the settlement on the banks of the Lehigh River.

And it was the flickering candle he held amidst the shadows while leading the hymns that was the beginning of the Christmas eve candle service of today.

In the little drug store, the oldest in the country, around the corner from the church, the pharmacist will tell you he has used 350 pounds of beeswax to prepare the tapers. Around these, at the base, are fastened little clusters of colored paper. And they are ready for the Christmas eve vigil.

On that night the inside of the church is a place of singular beauty.

Christmas trees exuding the fresh fragrance of pine line the walls, two and three deep behind the top pulpit where they frame a large oil painting of the Nativity.

Lights blaze, revealing the simple, striking lines of the architecture, and as the congregation files in, the soft strains of the church's famous trombone choir fill the air.

Then after the worshippers are seated, the singing of hymns the whole world sings begins.

With parts divided between the choir and the congregation, and an orchestra providing accompaniments, songs that for centuries have heralded the coming of Christ ring out in joyous notes.

Then as the opening bars of the last hymn are heard, sacristans start down the aisles from the rear.

In the arms of the men sacristans are large trays of lighted candles. As they halt at each pew, the women pass the flaming tapers to the worshippers until a flickering light is reflected in the eyes of every singer.

While the flood of song rolls on, all other illumination in the church is extinguished. The walls and ceiling and the persons of those assembled remain bathed in the soft white light of more than a thousand candles.

The wave of music sweeps on to the final "Praise to our heavenly king." Then silence, deep and reverent, followed by benediction. And another link with the past of old Bethlehem has been forged.

But the music of the service has not ended. For as the worshippers move out into the night, the strains of more glad hymns greet them from the belfry overhead.

Grouped there are the musicians of the trombone choir whose pealing notes can be heard throughout the city of Bethlehem.

Thus proceeds the Christmas eve vigil in the old Moravian Church at Bethlehem.

And thus it has been held since the days when Indians stalked the woods along the Lehigh.

Legend has it that many years ago a savage tribe of redmen planned to massacre the inhabitants of the settlement, but were frightened off while closing in on the colony by the strange, triumphant music floating through the wintry night.

But no legend is needed to enrich the romantic history of this colorful old settlement.

Though the Indians have long since vanished, much of the original village which they visited, and in which many of them were baptized Christians, still remains.

Across the street from the Church stands the Brethren's House, built in 1748 as a home for the unmarried men of the congregation.

Now used as a girl's seminary and college, this historic old structure was turned into a general hospital for colonial troops during the Revolution, and the groans and sobs of the sick and dying were the sounds that came from there on the Christmas eve of 1776.

A delightful tradition that holds sway in the school today is the placing of a lighted candle in every window on Christmas eve. The custom makes the whole front of the building a pretty holiday greeting to every passerby.

Christmas, too, will bring a twinkle to the eyes of the eleven old ladies who live in the home for the aged across Heckewelder Street from the Church.

This is the building that once housed the clergy of the congregation, including the revered Zinzindorf.

Erected in 1741, it is the oldest edifice in Bethlehem today. On its second floor was the original chapel where the first settlers worshipped.

But now gray-haired old ladies walk with faltering steps where once strode men who helped shape the nation's destiny.

Steeped in the Christmas tradition of their church, they await the coming of the holiday with a new interest in life, a new and exciting subject for talk in the cozy, old fashioned living room where they gather.

In another day, Washington, Lafayette and Pulaski sat there, and many another man who earned immortality.

From their windows the ladies can see across the way to the Widow's Home, overlooking the Lehigh, established in 1768 for the widows and children of clergymen and missionaries.

There, too the Christmas spirit is stirring, with a Christmas Star, multi-pointed paper symbol of the Eastern star, hanging in the hallway at the head of the stars.

This is a contribution to the season's observance of a fine old lady who lives there. She's 86, she tells you. But you find it hard to believe—she's so alert and witty, so quick and erect.

There's Christmas in the air, too, in the nearby Sister's Home, where live in single blessedness the family-less women of the congregation, young and old.

In this house the holiday has been celebrated since 1742 when it was built as a home and school for the unmarried girls of the settlement.

Here the traditional German dishes of the season will soon be simmering on the stoves while the ladies hovering over them hum the tunes of Christmas songs.

Meanwhile throughout Bethlehem excitement over the approaching great day is simmering in the hearts of the children of the town.

Plans for the festivities are already under way and these, in almost every instance, will revolve about the erection of the "putz"—the traditional Moravian home decoration for the young.

The word "putz" comes from the German "putzen," meaning to decorate.

And its place in the Christmas scene at Bethlehem is as secure as the fir trees in other American homes.

Into the making of the putz go moss and sand, painted canvas and straw and earth, all providing a background for the miniatures of wood and paper-mache of the Christ Child, the Virgin Mary, and the other Biblical characters of the nativity.

The putz may be large or small, simple or lavish, depending on the imagination or economic circumstances of the builder.

Painting from photo by J. G. Williams, Bethlehem Globe-Times photographer.

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We the People

Trade Mark Registered

REED McROBERTS . . . Editor

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THE COAL PROBLEM

FOR many eastern counties of Pennsylvania, prosperity has been based on anthracite coal production. Anthracite coal suffered its depression long before depression struck other lines. It is still suffering. Several developments within the past month have highlighted the fact that the anthracite problem has ceased to be either a business problem, or a labor problem, or a partisan problem, but a profound sociological problem to which there is no obvious answer.

A few weeks ago in Carbon County a judge made a decision on assessments, involving the refunding of tax monies to coal companies, which threatens to bankrupt many of the municipalities.

A month ago Justice Barnes handed down for the Supreme Court an opinion on coal land tax assessments which may be equally far-reaching. It establishes the prosperity of the anthracite industry as a basis for coal land taxation. Although Justice Barnes insisted the opinion should not be used as a precedent, it will be human nature to so use it. Said Justice Barnes, in lowering the assessments on Philadelphia & Reading Co. property in Northumberland County:

"It seems that of equal importance in the assessment of coal lands are the factors of value found in answer to the questions, how available is the coal, and how profitably may it be mined? To develop the land . . . much nonproductive labor must be expended . . . Moreover, under the present existing conditions of the anthracite coal market, where the existing productive mines can readily supply more than the demand, undeveloped coal lands have problematic value, largely dependent upon the future of the industry.

"If anthracite coal cannot be sold, the land containing it is clearly useless as a mining proposition . . . The decline in demand for anthracite coal is unquestioned . . . shipments in 1931 being almost 25 percent lower than in 1926."

Again and again through a series of decisions, Justice Barnes used the depressed condition of the industry, and coal lands not in use as a basis for ordering lower assessments.

It is an interesting speculation to wonder how far a farmer would get if he came into court pleading for lower assessments in his property because he was leaving a few fields to lie fallow, instead of farming all his land intensely for one season's profit. The farmer would probably not get very far with that argument.

Perhaps in law the manner in which many of the original coal leases were obtained—thousands of acres at extremely low cost—has no bearing, but it has a bearing in the coal question.

In many parts of Pennsylvania coal operations have ruined the land for any other productive purpose. Communities have been built around coal. Thousands of cheap-labor workers were imported from Europe to mine coal. With the anthracite industry suffering depression, the communities are on their beams' ends— and the miners are unemployed. Many of these unemployed miners have gone into bootleg coal mining —which has only aggravated the distressed condition of the industry generally.

Now the coal companies, which exploited the anthracite fields, are asking for relief from the courts and from the State. Even they and the inhabitants of the coal regions are united, like two sick persons in whose blood is the same evil contamination. Most recent example of this is the fight the coal communities, the coal miners and the coal companies are making against the extension of cheap natural gas lines into the anthracite territory and its markets.

It is significant that the distressed condition of the anthracite industry originated during the 1926 coal strike. When the strike was over, operators found that they had lost a profitable percentage of their market to other fuels. They have never been able to regain that share of the market lost during the strike. Perhaps today, seeing the millions they have lost, watching the red ink flow over their ledgers, the coal operators wish that they had been more agreeable to the miners' terms.

But however they may feel, the markets are gone—perhaps irrevocably gone. Their practices can only be a warning to other industries which might think themselves impregnable, only to wake up some day finding lost markets the result of a stubborn labor policy.

Meantime, anthracite coal remains the sick man of Pennsylvania industry. Having lost their own markets; having ruined much of the land for anything save coal production till coal production is itself in the doldrums; having made their properties the tax basis of many communities, and now whittling away at those assessments; having brought thousands of workers into a territory, then having abandoned them to their fate: the coal operators now cry to the State and to the legislators to save them.

In some sections, such as the City of Scranton, third largest city in the State, acres have been undermined by coal operations, leaving the city resting on stilts. Today to fill up the voids left by coal operations, there are requests for Federal projects costing up to $50,000,000.

Likewise dozens of rivers and streams have been polluted in the coal areas. Pollution has cost cities millions of dollars in filtration plants.

Thus while the anthracite operators were selling their coal to other States during the prosperous periods, they were selling it without including such costs as those mentioned above in the price of anthracite. Today Pennsylvania is having to pay for those hidden costs; is having to support unemployed miners; is billed for millions to support this industry.

They have sucked the oranges; now they are stuck with the pulp and the rind—the jobless men and the depressed industry. And not only are they stuck, but the State is stuck.

The problems bequeathed by coal land exploitation are a warning that our industrialism can be a boomerang. They are a warning that similar industrial problems must be met with realistic progressive legislation, else they will boomerang too.

TO OUR READERS

We the People will be glad to print letters of interest from its readers. You are bound to have first-hand experience that others do not have, but will be glad to share. Write about your jobs, about your hobbies. Write about conditions as you know them, basing your letters on facts, not on unsupported opinions. People are interesting to other people. Write about yourselves.

We the People is also open to receive manuscripts from its readers—articles on little-known historical data, on odd, out-of-the-way business, on interesting facts of Pennsylvania life. It will pay for manuscripts it uses. We the People assumes no responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

THE BOX OFFICE POINT OF VIEW

EDITOR & Publisher is the conservative trade paper of the newspaper business. In a recent issue it commented editorially on the recent spot-changing of the Pottsville Morning Paper into the Schuylkill New Deal Reporter—an event which occurred with startling rapidity and bare-facedness shortly after the Democratic Party swept Pennsylvania. Says the Editor & Publisher editorial:

"Pennsylvania's swing toward the Democracy three weeks ago meant many things to many people, but one essential fact looms over all—there are more Democrats in the State than ever before. That fact sheds light on the recent journalistic shift in Pottsville, where the Evening Republican and the Morning Paper have for many years been published as stalwarts of the G. O. P.

"The Morning Paper since November 16 has been the Schuylkill New Deal Reporter, a three-cent Democratic morning paper, while the Evening Republican remains true to its ancient allegiance. . . The idea is neither new nor startling. Pennsylvania, in fact, has for some time had several newspaper operations in which one unit supported Democracy while its twin newspaper was just as ardent for the Republicans.

"In most instances the idea succeeds. Where it fails, the failure can be traced to editorial insincerity. The box office must not control if the public is to be convinced and kept convinced that all shades of public opinion are being fairly and adequately served by a newspaper monopoly."

The "box office" is a stumbling block to many persons who doubt the value of such hydra-headed journalism. In the past most Republican newspaper owners have seen eye-to-eye with the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Grundy's Manufacturers' Association, and other spokesmen of Big Business on liberal legislation which came before the Senate. If a publisher sincerely opposes such legislation, will he oppose it in both his papers? That would alienate the groups which he hoped to catch by changing the name and policy of one paper. Or would he oppose them in one, and support them in the other? That reduces publishing to the lowest form of pandering to any opinion so long as it catches the public fancy. It puts integrity on the newspaper bargain counter.

The other disturbing thought on a chameleon press is the implied doctrine that a different newspaper must be published to report the news for readers of different political parties. Behind that implication is the fact that during the recent campaign newspapers made their columns propoganda problems, instead of news columns. It indicates that publishers apparently accept this condition as necessary. It belies the term, "freedom of the press."

Under such circumstances, Editor and Publisher does well to warn its publisher readers that the public must be "convinced and kept convinced" that the box office is not the final arbiter of journalistic ethics.

NO WHITE HOUSE • NO PALACE

TWO NATIVE-BORN PENNSYLVANIANS FAIL TO MAKE GOOD, AS PRESIDENT OR QUEEN

Acme Photo.

MRS. WALLIS SIMPSON

Born in Franklin County, she pointed for Buckingham Palace.

TWO Pennsylvanians—their nativity however seems to have been more a matter of accident rather than incident—who hitched their wagons to the loftiest stars of ambition recently have seen their dreams come tumbling down about their heads.

One was Alf Landon. He hoped to become the president of these United States. Twenty-eight million voters, fearing the wrath of posterity, thought otherwise.

The other is best known as Wally Simpson. She might have become the Queen of England. Unhappily, the Empire disagreed with the King on this matter.

Alf Landon's life and that of Wally Simpson are strangely similar. Both are in their forties. Both have been married twice. Both have sought the highest honors to which man or woman may aspire—heads of the two greatest nations on earth. Summer brought them happiness. Autumn sent both their dreams crashing to earth.

Pennsylvania did not "put her native son in the White House"; nor did she put her native daughter in the palace of England's queens.

Born June 19, 1896 in a clapboarded, two-story dwelling—it has since become the proverbial vine-covered cottage—at Monterey Springs, near Blue Mountain Summit, Franklin County, Wally's birth in this state was responsible entirely to the fact that her father was too ill to leave the Warfield summer home and return to Baltimore.

She was named Bessie for an aunt, Mrs. D. Buchanan Merryman, now her chaperone; Wallis to please her father, Teackle Wallis Warfield.

Five months later, Warfield went to his reward leaving his eighteen-year-old wife and infant daughter with little more than his blessing.

There are stories that her mother was forced to open a boarding house to make ends meet. It is generally agreed now that two cousins attending schools in Baltimore were their only "paying guests."

An uncle, "Uncle Sol Davies" Warfield, Baltimore postmaster and railroad magnate, paid for her early schooling. It is while attending the exclusive Arundel School that Wally made the first of her many conquests.

She was twelve. "Tom" Shryock was fifteen. He began passing notes to her through the fence surrounding the Arundel School. The romance lasted five years.

Some years later, her "Tom," now Major J. T. Shryock, Jr., was to meet the man of Wally's life, the Prince of Wales, then touring Canada and this country. It is certain that Wally did not enter the conversation—she was then in California and the wife of a Navy lieutenant.

Perhaps ambition ended her first romance. At seventeen, she dropped the name of Bessie and asked to be known only as Wallis. She bobbed her hair and began wearing a monocle. Her associates thought she was really becoming quite British.

Money she had not but she possessed an abundance of lineage. On her mother's side, the Montagues could trace ancestry back to the knight, Drago A. Monteacuto, who with William, the Conqueror, stormed England in 1066. It may be seen accordingly that history is but repeating itself.

Young Wallis was recognized as a member of the Maryland Free State's first families.

At a Naval Academy ball, she met Midshipman Winfield Spencer, Jr. A year later, he had become a Lieutenant; she had become his wife. She was twenty.

Despite apparently happy years together on the West Coast, Wally soon returned to Baltimore and applied for a divorce. "She's a fine woman," Lieutenant Spencer insists to this day. He too is twice-divorced.

While touring Europe with her aunt, Wallis met Ernest Simpson, an American ship broker. In 1918, as the story books put it, they became one.

Just how Wally Simpson met David Windsor of the Buckingham Palace Windsors is in dispute. One camp insists they met in a railroad station. He helped her with the luggage. Another insists Lady Furness, once a favorite of the Prince, was responsible for their introduction. But it was a new face and the Prince, even as you or I, liked new faces.

Her husband and she began attending Buckingham Palace receptions. Then, Mr. Simpson began to stay at home.

The king and Wally made the rounds of the bright spots together. Ascot, the night clubs, house parties found them together.

Upon the death of King George, David ascended to the throne as Edward VIII. On his vacation cruise in the Mediterranean, American newshawks soon learned that she was a member of the party. In fact, when photographs began reaching this country, she seemed to be the No. 1 woman of the party.

Wide World Photo.

ALF M. LANDON

Mercer County-born, he missed the White House.

Then stories reached American newspapers to the effect that she was selecting his shirts, his ties, his socks; that she planned his meals and itinerary; that Edward VIII, heretofore known as "Rex Bad Boy," was being reformed.

Scratch a woman in love and you find a reformer. Newspaper editors saw the handwriting on the wall and recognized it as one of the greatest circulation stories of the century.

British officials complained of the stories. The heavy hand of censorship prevented the British press from printing these same stories and those who were best informed as to the King's doings were fully three thousand miles away.

Perhaps marriage was in the King's mind long before the House of Commons suspected a romance. At least, the House this spring approved a yearly grant of $200,000 for the wife of the monarch when and if this seeming impossibility should take place.

But British morals, even though they concern the King, are still on a comparatively high standard. Despite the chestnut that the King may do no wrong, British officials began to wonder whether even the king might continue such close association with a married woman, a married woman whose husband seemed to become increasingly a disinterested member of the cast.

The situation became aggravated; more so when Wally suddenly instituted divorce proceedings against Ernest Sompson. Simpson admitted to the charge of infidelity, the sole grounds for an English divorce.

Almost overnight, Mrs. Simpson was granted a divorce **nisi**: that is, a divorce **unless** something turned up in the next six months to prevent the divorce from being made absolute.

The romance blazed more brightly. The King's chauffeur became Wally's chauffeur. A private telephone linked her home with Buckingham palace. It became known that the court calendar, which daily reported the King's whereabouts, was being falsified with the King slipping away to his Fort Belvedere retreat and Wally unreported.

The British press continue to say nothing. Others were more given to

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THE SIMPSON BIRTHPLACE

Here at Monterey 40 years ago was born Bessie Wallis Warfield.

THE JUNGLE Comes to PHILADELPHIA

STONE WALLS DO NOT A PRISON MAKE...NOR IRON BARS A ZOO

ELEVEN hundred years before Christ a Chinese emperor, founding the first zoo, named it "Intelligence Park," possibly to deride the mentality of his human subjects. Collections of live animals, birds and fish were maintained by the Greeks, the Assyrians, Babylonians and Egyptians. Rome's zoo, the "Vivarium," was founded with four elephants captured in the battle of Taranto in 273 B.C., later grew to 3,500 animals under Augustus (29 B.C.) and 11,000 under the Emperor Triano (117 A.D.), when animals were used in gladiatorial combats. In Mexico the lordly Montezuma kept a private zoo containing "jaguars, ocelots and giant serpents."

Louis XIII is supposed to have founded the first modern zoo at his Paris Jardin des Plantes in 1626. Today, to satisfy man's insatiable curiosity toward the animal kingdom, there are more than 200 public zoos scattered over the world.

But animals, by and large, do not take kindly to captivity. Adventurer Frank Buck has a hard job to "bring 'em back alive"; to keep them alive is still harder. Progress has been made. In its February-March **Bulletin** the Philadelphia Zoological Society reports that captive animals live longer than formerly. The average lifespan of primates (apes, monkeys) has increased 500 percent since tuberculosis was driven from the Philadelphia Zoo. The number of animals lost from the collection each year has dropped to about half of 1900's mortality.

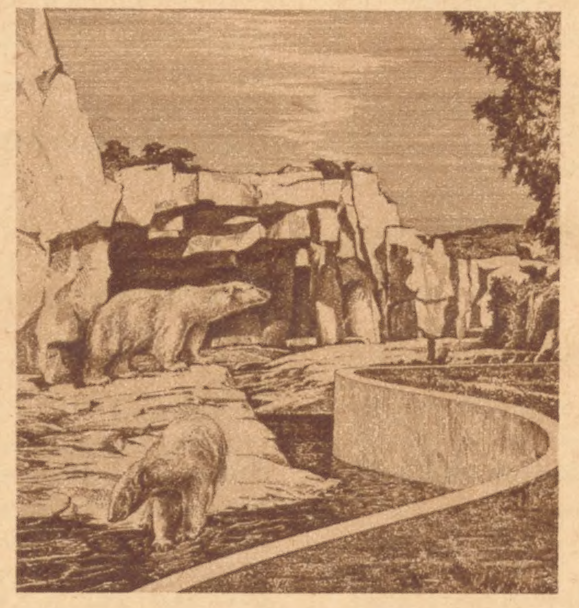
But, the Society admits ruefully, despite these attainments, death-losses each year amount to about fifteen percent of the collection. An annual death rate of fifteen percent means that the entire collection of animals, in numbers if not in specimens, must be replaced every seven years.

Says Dr. William T. Hornaday, famed naturalist: "A wild animal that cannot be kept in comfortable captivity should not be kept at all."

The conscientious, animal-loving directors of the Philadelphia Zoological Garden, oldest (since 1859) zoo in the country, have long been aware that "iron bars do not make a zoo." Zoo-keepers face a vexing double problem. They must provide a form of housing which will allow the captive brotherhood to live and thrive; and also one which will freely permit the spectators to view the animals in a natural state, as they really are.

Iron bars and cages fail to answer the zoo-keeper's double problem. Animals confined in cages are denied a normal, happy, healthy existence. Zoo-goers, seeing the creatures only in unfavorable, unnatural surroundings, never get to know the regal indifference of the lion, the cruel grace of the panther, the muscled savagery of the tiger. To animals on the loose, animals behind bars are as a statue to a tap dancer.

Last August, 69 civiconscious citizens who would like to see the Zoo's citizens roaming a modernized, cageless, barless Zoo formed a Citizen's Committee for a Free and Modern Zoo. CCFMZ's 69 fixed their signatures to a letter to Dr. William B. Cadwalader, instructing him to find out how strongly the public yearned for such a zoo. The Committee, headed by R. **Sturgis Ingersoll, vice** president of the Zoological Society, announced it was sponsoring a plan drawn up last year by Edwin H. Clark, designer of Chicago's famed, up-to-the-minute Brookfield Zoo, and noted Philadelphia Architect Dr. Paul B. Cret.



THE BARLESS ZOO
Gives both bears and men the illusion of freedom.

Under the Clark-Cret Plan, Philadelphia's zoo would be transformed into a vast open-air garden where, on islands surrounded by hidden moats, animals would rove in native freedom. Every visitor might well imagine himself a big game hunter; every animal would believe that **he** was at large in his native habitat. Lions would pad over a 2-acre veldt and sleep in semi-natural rock caves. Panthers would stalk through a real underbrush —but an underbrush so designed that the visitor would get a far better view than any ordinary big game hunter would have. Monkeys would swing not from artificial trapezes on which they pick their fleas before a goggling close-packed audience, but from real trees in a genuine forest.

Thus zoo-goers, with no bars between them and the wild, could, during an Afternoon at the Zoo, bask in the thrilling illusion that nothing whatever prevents the animals from springing upon them, so carefully concealed are the water-filled moats in a modern naturalistic zoo. Scientists who since 1901 have enjoyed Philadelphia's Penrose Research Laboratory, gift of Dr. Charles B. Penrose, would be able to conduct more illuminating experiments on animal diet and the Laboratory's work on control of tuberculosis in apes and monkeys, unrivaled at any other zoological park in the world.

To make the Zoological Garden comparable to the advanced, free zoos in Detroit, Chicago, St. Louis and New York would cost some $1,250,000. Dropping the present admission fee of a quarter and reconstructing the Zoo would result, the Committee declared in an open letter, in an attendance of 2,000,000 annually. Said the sixty-nine signers:

"After considering the proposed plans for making Philadelphia's Zoo free five days a week and rebuilding it to make it a great civic center for healthy entertainment and education for all the people, we urge upon the Board of Directors of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia to take every step to bring this plan before the public and secure expressions of public opinion thereon."

With a few facts and figures before it, the board decided on an opinion-sounding experiment. In 1935, it knew, only 259,000 people went to the Zoo. Of them, 49,000 went on a free day. Early in October the Zoo publicized its Nine Days' Wonder—nine free days at the Zoo. Breaking all previous records, 352,000 people massed into the Zoo. On the last free day, Sunday, October 12, 154,000 persons surged past the gate—more people than live in Reading, Pa. On the same day a year before only 4,000 people had attended. Thus in one free day, attendance shot up 3,830 **percent.** Fifty extra trolley cars ran on a one-minute schedule to handle the crowds. The next day cleaners removed five truckloads of trash from the Zoo grounds, and one truckload of pop bottles. Philadelphia had taken the Zoo to its collective heart.

Endorsements, petitions to City Council, hurrahs for the Plan, began pouring in even before the nine free days. On November 13 a petition signed by 50,000 school children was hauled to City Hall by camel-back, solemnly accepted by Mayor S. (for Samuel) Davis Wilson. Within 30

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FOR A NEW ZOO
A camel load of 50,000 signatures goes to Mayor Wilson.

CANCER FORUM

Lakenau Hospital Forum on Cancer Throws The Public Spotlight on Cancer, Which Ranks Second as a Cause of Death in Pennsylvania . . . Early Treatment Effective

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE suffered from cancer. Two of his sisters died of it. President Grant died of it. Grover Cleveland suffered cancer of the mouth, was operated on for it aboard a yacht in 1893, was fitted with an artificial jaw made of rubber, and lived another fifteen years with no one the wiser. William Ewart Gladstone, four times prime minister of Great Britain, was attacked by cancer in his old age, and died of it a year later in 1898. Author James Russell Lowell died of cancer of the kidneys.

The name cancer was first given to malignant tumours of a certain kind by Hippocrates, the famed Greek physician of the fourth century before Christ. Cancer is like no other disease. The term cancer covers a number of physical conditions. Though not all tumors are malignant, all malignant tumors are embraced under cancer. Cancer occurs when body cells with an abnormal unlimited capacity for growth, grow wild. Though manufactured like normal body cells, they serve no structural purpose.

Cancer is not contagious. It is not a blood disease. As yet no one knows the specific cause of cancer. It may occur anywhere in the body. Cancer may affect the skin; or the lips; or the mouth. It may appear in the nose or throat. Cancer of the breast causes 10,000 deaths among women every year. One-third of the women who die from cancer die from cancer of the womb. Cancer of the stomach is the most serious form of the disease. It may also appear in the bones, the kidneys, the liver, the bladder, the gall-bladder. Cancer may be removed or killed off if treated early enough. Ignorance is the great friend of cancer.

Because more than 150,000 men, women and children die of cancer in the United States every year, because many of the deaths are preventable if cancer is recognized early enough and treated promptly, the Women's Auxiliary of Philadelphia's famed Lakenau Hospital Research Institute has for four years held a public cancer forum at Philadelphia's Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. Running through December 1-to-2, the Institute drew hundreds of listeners who heard:

¶Dr. Francis Carter Wood, director of the Crocker Cancer Research Laboratory of Columbia University and former president of the American Association for Cancer Research, declared: "The day may come when we can treat cancer by drugs or other chemical means, instead of by the crude technical methods we now use. It may be all theory, but we may find some chemical causing cancer, a chemical that can be neutralized. It is altogether a chemical problem. Bacteriologists have nothing to do with it—bacteria do not cause cancer."

Dr. Wood based his hopes on the fact that a certain group of hydro-carbons, with carbon and hydrogen atoms arranged in a definite pattern, can be made to cause cancer in animals. If similar groups of hydro-carbons can be found to cause cancer in man, then the job will be to find chemical reagents which will neutralize the carcogenic substances without injury to normal body cells.

¶Dr. Clarence C. Little, director of the American Society for the Control of Cancer, hoped that a cure for cancer may be "just below the horizon." The treatment in which his experimental hopes are based is the neutron ray, whose atom-blasting potentialities were recently unearthed at California Institute of Technology. Said Dr. Little: "This ray may be able to select the rapidly growing cancer cell and leave the rest of the body alone. If it should do that, it would be a great boon."

More pessimistically, Dr. Little added: "I suspect that cancer is fundamental to all higher forms of life. It is not a disease in the ordinary sense of the word. It appears to be a small group of living units that for some reason starts growing again at the rate the body grew at about one year of age."

DR. EDITH MacBRIDE-DEXTER
"The disease is no respecter of age, sex or color."

¶Statistician Henry G. Klein of Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., first presented a gloomy set of figures, then turned them inside out more cheerfully. Said he: "Approximately 150,000 persons will have died of cancer in the United States in 1936. By 1960 the number of cancer deaths per year will be about double this figure unless some medical discovery to prevent the disease is made in the meantime." Then he added: "The cancer situation in the United States is not alarming." The true mortality from the disease, said he, is not increasing. The reason for the high figures is that the old age group in which cancer most frequently occurs is increasing in this country.

The Lakenau Hospital forum was a public event, to impress the public with the fact that it should learn to have its cancers diagnosed early, treated early. Public health is the main job of Pennsylvania's Department of Health. Last week Secretary of Health Dr. Edith MacBride-Dexter wrote a paper which she had planned to read at the Forum. Unable to go, she sent her Vital Statistics Bureau Director Dr. Frank P. Strome instead. Said Dr. MacBride-Dexter's paper:

"The history of this disease (cancer) dates beyond that of man himself. Through the periods of evolution there are definite traces of the disorder in plant and animal life. . . . As people have gradually realized its menace, public fear has spread, which constitutes one of the major problems in its control.

"Since the beginning of the Twentieth Century, cancer has held peculiar significance to public health officials. With the establishment of the Bureau of Vital Statistics, records of deaths from the disease have been made available. With the advent of vital bookkeeping is has been possible to measure the proportion of the problem which confronts us. For the period, 1906 through 1935, there are on file in Pennsylvania records of 229,066 cancer deaths. To illustrate this loss of life—the total is equivalent to the combined populations of Erie and Reading.

"From this record we find that cancer, in the past thirty years, has advanced from sixth to second rank as a leading cause of death in the Commonwealth. The death rate has risen from 58.9 per 100,000 population in 1906 to 114.7 last year. With the exception of 1918 and 1930, the annual mortality has shown an increase over the preceding year. The disease is no respecter of age, sex or color. It attacks persons of all social conditions and economically, exacts an inestimable toll.

"According to Dr. Burton J. Lee, 'The hospitalization of the cancer patients in Philadelphia for the year 1931 cost a half million dollars. The loss in economic value to the community of those who died is upwards of $32,000,000.' At the present time one death in every nine is attributed to cancer. In ages over 65 years, the ratio is even more striking . . . It has been estimated that three cases exist to every death recorded. On that basis, there are in Pennsylvania today close to 35,000 cancer cases.

"Judging from the experiences of the past, a campaign today for the control of cancer will meet essentially the same obstacles that were encountered in combating the health scourges of several decades ago. The principle factors of ignorance, fear and apathy, on the part of both lay and professional groups, have been overcome somewhat in the past ten years. While the cause of cancer is still unknown, there is undoubtedly more information written on this subject than on any other disease . . . It has helped discard the idea of a stigma attached to the disease. . . . It has discouraged to some extent the malpractice of quackery. 'Cure-alls' with their promise of quick relief, no longer claim the victims that they did in former years.

"Former cancer patients can do a commendable service. To know a friend or neighbor who has been cured is practical health education. Too often, persons who have been cured keep the knowledge to themselves while public attention is directed to the mounting number of fatalities."

Sponsor of last fortnight's cancer forum, the Women's Auxiliary is an adjunct of the Lakenau Hospital's Cancer Research Institute. Opened in 1925, the Institute's buildings and equipment were donated by Rodman Wanamaker. At that time the Institute's Dr. Stanley Reimann, called it the most complete and best-fitted cancer research institute in America, though not the largest. Dr. Reimann's staff of 18 is partially supported by the International Cancer Foundation, established by William H. Donner, multi-millionaire steelman whose daughter married and divorced Elliot Roosevelt.

Formed in 1933, the Women's Auxiliary cooperates with the Institute to broaden the public's knowledge of cancer, to impress it with the fact that if an early diagnosis is achieved much cancer mortality may be avoided. Composed mainly of doctors' wives (Mrs. John B. Deaver, widow of Lakenau Hospital's famed sur-

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A LAWYER'S OPINION ON CANCER

As a layman intensely interested in stream purification, Mr. Grover Ladner, noted attorney and a Deputy Attorney General for Pennsylvania, recently noted a tie between stream pollution and cancer. Strictly a layman's observation, it is presented for its interest. Said Mr. Ladner: "Doctors, if they tell you the truth, will say that they have their doubts about the chemicals that are being used to make polluted water fit to drink these days. The city of Philadelphia, which gets its water from the Delaware River and the Schuylkill, has a very high cancer death rate. Camden, just across the river, has a cancer death rate one-third lower. Both cities breathe the same air and eat the same food. The difference is in the water. Camden gets its water from pure artesian wells."

Merry Christmas

(Continued from Page 2)

$10,000,000 a month by Christmas. Corporations employing more than 700,000 voted pay raises and bonuses of more than a hundred million. Sears, Roebuck's employes were assured a $1,500,000 wage "extra" by Christmas. Lee Tire & Rubber of Conshohocken upped wages 7½ percent. Came an avalanche of boosts—Bayuk Cigars, Hamilton Watch of Lancaster, Reliance Life Insurance Company, Chestnut Hill Railroad, McKeesport Tin Plate, to name but a few. In the two weeks following the election, 30 companies jumped wages $70,000,000, bringing an additional $125 million a year to 1,200,000 employes.

Pittsburgh, Erie, Scranton, and a number of smaller cities in Pennsylvania restored teachers' paycuts in full; due the first of the year in Philadelphia is a restoration of previous cuts for 3,000 teachers, 1,000 other school employes.

State Department of Labor figures for October show that payrolls are 21.7 percent higher than last October's; for every hundred dollars paid to Pennsylvania workers during October 1933, $167.40 was paid this October.

EMPLOYMENT. Concerns all over the State are hiring. Straw in the wind: Philadelphia Storage Battery will take on 2,000-3,000 more workers before the end of the year. The Federal Reserve Board asserts that the Philadelphia District employs more than at any other time since 1929. State Department of Labor employment figures: October, 1936 leads last October by 9 percent. For every hundred workers employed in the State during an average 1933 month, 120 were on the payrolls October, 1936. Working time in Pennsylvania's manufacturing industries is double that of 1932, the worst year.

Unemployment remains, however, despite encouraging signs, a pressing problem with no immediate complete solution in sight.

RELIEF. About 3,756,000 relief checks will be required January 1, 1937—a million less than last January 1. Forty-three counties in Pennsylvania report cuts in the relief rolls. Credit for the decline goes largely to business pick-up.

TRADE. The day following the election that was supposed to bring disaster witnessed the broadest buying movement of the year; an upward surge of commodity prices, expressing a world-wide demand for copper, rubber, cotton, and other staples. Foreign trade has increased 60 percent since 1932.

Wholesale trade, according to unanimous jobbers' & wholesalers' opinion, will show remarkable improvement this Christmas. Wholesale establishments did a $42,000,000,000 business last year, jumping 1933 by 41 percent. Pennsylvania, with sales of $2,703,000,000 (increase of 34 percent) ranks fourth among states.

Retail trade in the Philadelphia area advanced 19 percent over last year; Pittsburgh retailers look for an $11,000,000 Christmas trade, a figure never exceeded.

CARLOADINGS. Regarded by economists as one of the most reliable indexes of business trends, carloadings show steady gains. For the week ending October 31, runs the report of the Ass'n of American RR's, carloadings totalled 814,175 cars, up from 132,177 the same week last year.

FARMING. Bankruptcies in Pennsylvania farms dwindled from 208 in 1934 to 171 last year. Potato farmers in the State harvested a 1936 crop which averaged 132 bushels to the acre, a yield that has been bettered only twice in 27 years. September receipts from crops, livestock, and livestock products, were greater than any of the last four years. Pennsylvania crops brought $7,058,000 as compared with $5,299,000 of September last year; livestock and livestock products sales were $14,876,000 against $14,259,000. For the nine months ending September 30, crops yielded $10 million more this year than they did in 1935; the increase over the corresponding period in 1933 is $28,230,000.

The Federal Department of Agriculture forecasts a farm income of $7,850,000,000 in 1937—nearly double the farm income of 1932. Farmers are getting higher prices, selling more, buying more, living better.

NATIONAL INCOME. $53 billion in 1935, jumped to $62,000,000,000 this year. Mississippi Senator Pat Harrison predicts that the ceaseless rise will lay the base for a balanced budget in another year.

SHOTS AT RANDOM. Gain in percentage of the first nine months in 1936 over the same period in 1935:

Passenger car sales.....
.....increased 37 percent

Commercial car sales.....
.....increased 39 percent

Household refrigerator sales....
.....increased 50 percent

Electric power output.....
.....increased 15 percent

Heavy construction .....
.....increased 246 percent

* * *

Thus as Christmas drew near, even those who before election had fearfully pictured Franklin Delano Roosevelt began to think, as the wave of Roosevelt prosperity broke over the nation, that he was the jolly gentleman who, disguised in red suit and white whiskers, will descend America's chimney Christmas Eve to fill the fullest Christmas stocking the U. S. has enjoyed in seven years.

The Jungle Comes To Philadelphia

(Continued from Page 12)

days of the call, some 313,000 signatures to petitions were presented. Endorsements came from organizations with a total membership of more than 400,000. One appropriate endorser was the Central Lions Club.

Politically alert to popular demand, Mayor Wilson asked for $600,000 of WPA funds for the Zoo. He has requested Governor George H. Earle to include a "substantial amount in the State budget" for Philadelphia's Zoo.

Meantime zoo-minded individuals might well ponder a zoo's cost. Typical were the figures presented by the Zoo's then director, C. Emerson Brown, in 1931:

Food for some 3,500 specimens cost $50,000. To 70 employes went a payroll of $85,000. For new animals the Zoo paid out $20,000, spent another $24,000 improving their cages and quarters. An itemized market-basket bill for a zoo's dietician:

"Food costs about $4,000 a month. For this we purchase, among other basic necessities, about 175,000 lbs. of mixed timothy hay, 10,000 lbs. of meat, 20,000 lbs. of corn, bran and oats, 5,500 lbs. of fish, 1,000 lbs. of sunflower, canary and hemp seed, 200 lbs. of rice, 2,000 barrels of flour, and 400 lbs. of rock and white table salt.

"But these items represent only the coarser, more Spartan, elements of our varied menu. On the lists of monthly purchases are included such dainties as 75 barrels of lettuce, 48 dozen oranges, 140 bunches of bananas, 170 dozen eggs, 550 quarts of milk; and comparable quantities of carrots, apples, raisins, prunes, sugar, zweibach, and the like. Nor can we neglect our monthly order of 500 frogs and 10 lbs. of imported African ant eggs.

"Lizzie, our 4-ton elephant, is our most expensive boarder. Her daily menu, including 100 lbs. of timothy hay, 10 quarts of crushed vegetables, and 16 quarts of oats and bran costs approximately $2.60."

Notes on the cost of animals and replacements: A zoo's most expensive animal is usually the Indian rhinoceros. A young rhino delivered in New York, costs about $8,000. Elephants run from $2,500 to $4,000. A common hippo, will be worth $3,000; the rare pygmy hippo, $4,500. Zebras run about $1,000. The aard-vark, $1,500. A good gorilla brings $4,000. A Royal Bengal tiger, $2,000. Lions, cheaper, range from $800 to $1,200. Jaguars will cost $500, and leopards from $150 to $200. An ostrich costs $150, and a 22-foot python, weighing from 125 to 140 lbs., $300.

To bring the jungle to Philadelphia will be expensive. But 154,000 patrons in one day consider it well worthwhile.

Little Town of Bethlehem

(Continued from Page 9)

But it is a never failing source of delight to the children who, guided by custom, make the rounds of their friends on Christmas Day to see all the putzen in their neighborhood.

But not until the eve of the great day will the Nativity scene be open to their curious eyes.

For tradition demands that the putz be erected secretly behind locked doors that cannot fail to stir the imagination of the youngsters into fantastic realms.

And there are other promising things that make the days before Christmas seem so endless to the young Moravians of Bethlehem.

There are the special holiday cakes, the recipes for which were brought to this country by the first settlers. There are the brown cakes, spicy and thin, and the white ones, rich and flaky.

(Cakes are a great Christmas delicacy of the Pennsylvania Germans who live in the southeastern counties. One special Christmas cake is called "springler." Its recipe: four eggs, one lb. of powdered sugar, one pound of flour. Beat the eggs, then add sugar; after nearly an hour's beating, add the flour. Roll out the dough. Cut with an old wooden mould—the Pennsylvania Germans use a wheat sheaf mould, or the star and crescent—and allow to set overnight. Bake the next morning. The result is a hard, crisp, sweetish cake.)

Then there are the Christmas plates set aside for each member of the family, brimming with nuts and raisins, grapes and oranges and dates in quantity enough to satisfy the most voracious young appetite.

Numerous other quaint customs of the Moravians have survived the growing materialism and cynicism of the passing decades.

Rarely seen any more, even in the purest Pennsylvania German counties, is the belsnickel. Belsnickels used to dress themselves in falsefaces, carrying nuts with them to throw to the scrambling children. They visited the homes of the village, drank and sang.

And though the glare of mill furnaces may redden the sky over Pennsylvania's Bethlehem, and which in the town named for the birthplace of The Prince of Peace manufacture the grim armanents of war, the sturdy members of the church can yet see through it the gleam of the star that guided the Magi.

And the gleam of the candle they hold on Christmas Eve still signifies to them, as it did to their forefathers in the wilderness, the light of faith that emanated on that holy morning from a stable in a town in Judea.

No White House, No Palace

(Continued from Page 11)

opinions. The Archbishop of Canterbury diplomatically denounced the romance. Queen Mary was reported to have asked Wally to give up her son.

In this country, former Mrs. Simpson grudgingly admitted Wally's winning ways in this tart remark: "She has enough to steal a man. She stole him from me when I was lying ill in a hospital in Paris."

When it became apparent that "Rex Bad Boy" meant to continue thumbing his nose at tradition and wed the so-called "commoner," things began to happen.

Despite the fact that the Anglican Church is close to Catholicism, it permits marriage between divorced persons. On the contrary, the Archbishop of Canterbury thinks otherwise. He appealed to the government to take action.

Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin, tough-hided old reactionary, began bringing pressure to bear. Mrs. Simpson's divorce nisi might be revoked on the charge of collusion. The king was adamant.

The Dominions were opposed to it. Dominions be damned. The government would resign, precipitating a crisis which might mean the end of the Empire. The King stubbornly refused to give her up.

Life became more miserable for Mrs. Simpson. At Edinburgh, where the King had gone to dedicate a hospital, instead went to a railroad station to meet her, angry citizens had lettered in the streets: "Down with the American harlot."

Members of the government pleaded, threatened and undoubtedly spouted profanity in attempts to have Wally weaken. The King insisted that she take no action.

No honorable Englishman in the King's moral position might very well do anything but marry. But any honorable Englishman in the King's official position could not.

Last week Edward cut the Gordian knot by abdicating. He preferred love to a throne.

Poor Pennsylvania! Cheated of a president, now it is robbed of a Queen.

Cancer Forum

(Continued from Page 13)

geon, is honorary president; Mrs. Alfred M. Gay, president), the Auxiliary holds lectures and meetings for educational purposes.

In November, 1933, it held Philadelphia's first public meeting to discuss cancer research. Three hundred women attended the forum at the New Century Club at which Dr. Stanley Reimann, whose wife is an Auxiliary vice president, told of woman's increasing part in the fight against cancer, noting the work of the late Mme. Currie, of Dr. Maud Slye of Chicago. Cancer, said he, is still on the increase. Despite the popular impression that millions go for cancer research, in 1933, according to Dr. Reimann, there was only $500,000 available for cancer research in the entire U. S.

Since 1933 the Auxiliary has held an annual forum, with notable cancer specialists attending. Thus last fortnight's forum had as sponsors the American Society for the Control of Cancer, the Cancer Commission of the Medical Society of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia County Medical Society and its Committee on Cancer Control, the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women, and the Philadelphia Federation of Women's Clubs and allied organizations.

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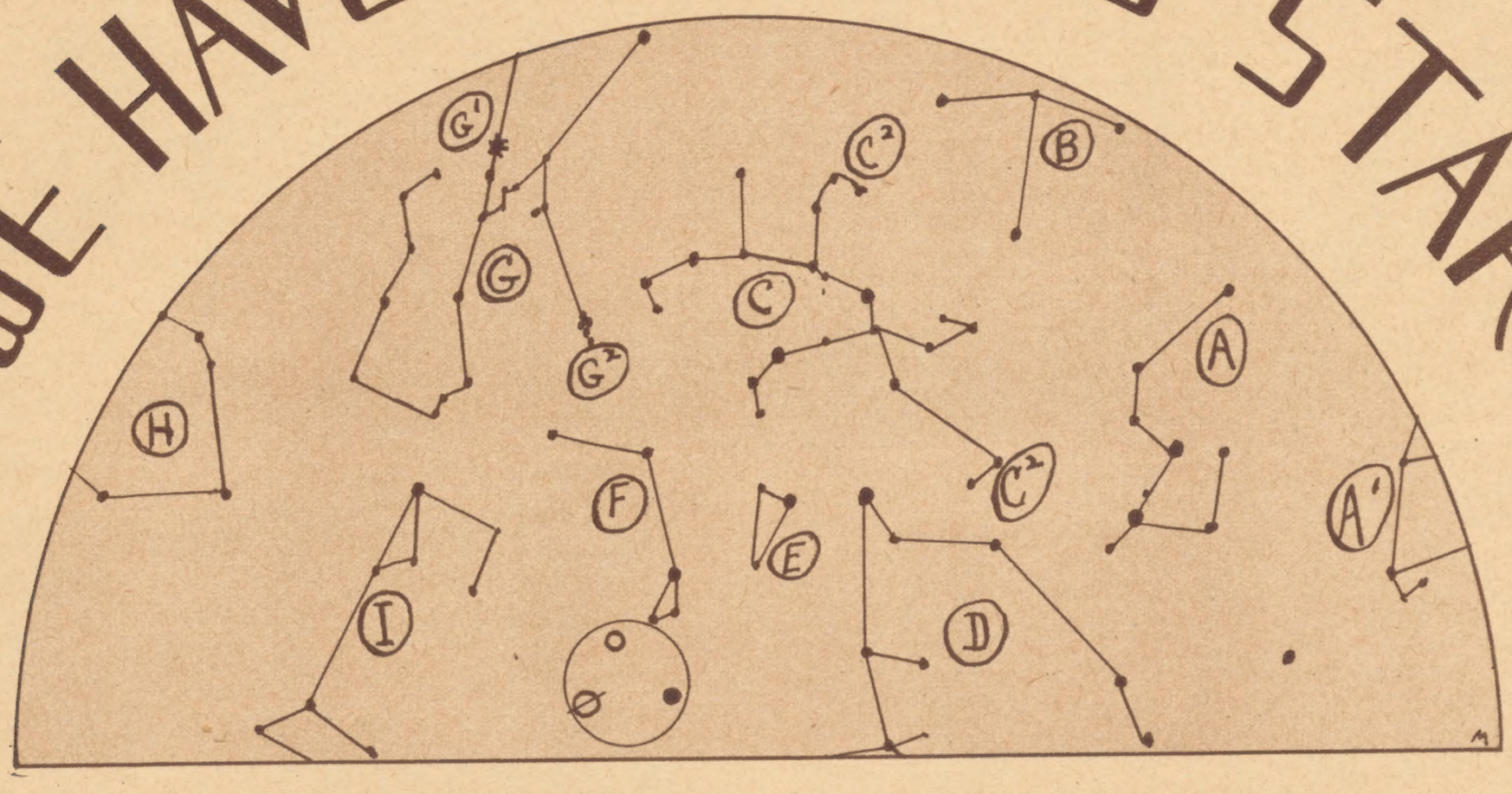


FELS PLANETARIUM SHOW SKIES AS THEY WERE WHEN CHRIST WAS BORN IN BETHLEHEM . . . AS THE WISE MEN SAW THEM

HAVE you ever wondered what the Magi, the "Three Wise Men of the East," saw when they looked in the skies the night Jesus Christ was born? What was the miraculous Star in the East, which carried so much portent for the Hebrew people and the peoples of the world?

Diligent astronomers, working in the Fels Planetarium of Philadelphia's Franklin Institute, know the answers. What is more, they have reconstructed the skies as they were at the time of the Nativity so that anyone can see for himself. The Planetarium, a huge white dome of perforated stainless steel on which appear visual reproductions of the sun, the moon, the planets and the stars, can be manipulated in such a way as to stimulate the natural movements of the heavenly bodies at an enormously quickened pace.

Deft star-pilots, privy to the long-range movements of their charges, can thus picture for us the heavens of any date. At a moment's notice, they can shift their levers and gears to place Jupiter, Mars, Sirius, Leo, Cassiopeia, and numberless other luminaries, in the precise positions they assumed the day Columbus landed on our shores, the night Washington crossed the Delaware.

All this month the Planetarium depicts the skies of December 25, 6 B. C., the night of Christ's birth. A word of explanation may be necessary here. Contrary to popular belief, Jesus was not born 1,936 years ago. The first Christmas is at least 1,940 years in the past, probably more. Errors of early historians account for this paradox: Christ, according to the best evidence, was born 7 years B. C. Since changing the date of every subsequent event would present insuperable difficulties, the matter stands right there.

The sky-chart on this page represents an almost exact picture of what the Wise Men saw. These Three, astrologers who tried to read the future in the peregrinations of the stars, saw something which could not fail to arouse their interest. From the Euphrates River Valley they looked up, perceived an unusually bright light in the Western sky.

CONSTELLATIONS ON THE CHART

A, Cassiopeia; A1, Cepheus. (Cassiopeia was a queen and Cepheus her king; as husband and wife should be, they are together for eternity); B, Camelopardalis; C, Perseus; D, Andromeda; E, Tiangulum; F, Aries; G, Taurus (G1 is Aldebaran; G2 is the Pleiades, or Seven Sisters); H, Eridanus, or the river; I, Cetus, or the whale.

The stars in the circle are Saturn, Jupiter and Mars—the Star in the East.

Another paradox. Says the Bible, "We have seen His star in the East." One explanation is that the line actually means "We in the East have seen His star." At any rate an uncommonly close grouping of three important stars, Saturn, Jupiter and Mars, produced a wondrous spectacle, one which omened stupendous events to the astrologers.

About once in a century these three stars come together, usually with nothing of great consequence occurring. But the Wise men were convinced, journeyed to Palestine, predicted the coming of the long-awaited Messiah. Thus these Three saw their forecast confirmed, by design or coincidence; and they took, and the world has since taken, the Star of Bethlehem, really three stars close together, as the principal symbol of Christmas.

When astronomers speak of stars being close together, it is easy to be misled. Actually they are not very close—their breath-taking distance from the earth only makes them seem so. You can gain some conception of these distances by imagining an airplane capable of flying six hundred miles an hour in any direction. Such a craft could fly around the earth in 40 hours. A flight to Mars, our nearest planet, would require nine years. From Mars the plane would have to fly 70 years before reaching Jupiter, a good-sized planet some 1,300 times as big as the earth. The trip from Jupiter to the third "close" planet, the beautifully ringed Saturn, would take another 76 years.

Opened November, 1933, the Fels Planetarium, the second of four in the country, was the gift of Samuel S. Fels, Philadelphianthropist, to the 109-year old Franklin Institute, which faces Philadelphia's Logan Square. The Planetarium dome, a hemisphere 65 feet in diameter and 43 feet high, is constructed of sheets of stainless steel, in which are punched about 10,000,000 holes, not more than one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter and spaced about an eighth of an inch apart. A dumbbell-shaped instrument, a weird product of the Carl Zeiss Works of Jena, projects lights on the dome, lights which are per[illegible] images of the stars they represent. Heading [illegible] Fels Planetarium is famed star-expert James Stokley.

The first planetarium of the Fels kind was the German **Prinzessinnengarten**, built 1926 in Jena. Since then others have been erected all over the world. Initial American duplicate is the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, which was opened to the public in 1930.

Ever since star-gazers cast off the deadening shackles of astrology, took the name of astronomers, charted the courses of the stars in a workmanlike, scientific manner, the heavens have been bent to the uses of man. To matter-of-fact skeptics who hold that astronomy, while no doubt interesting, serves no practical function, star specialists point with pride to the following achievements, a few among many:

Only from the movements and positions of the stars is it possible to tell the correct time. Even Mussolini couldn't "make the trains run on time" without modern astronomy.

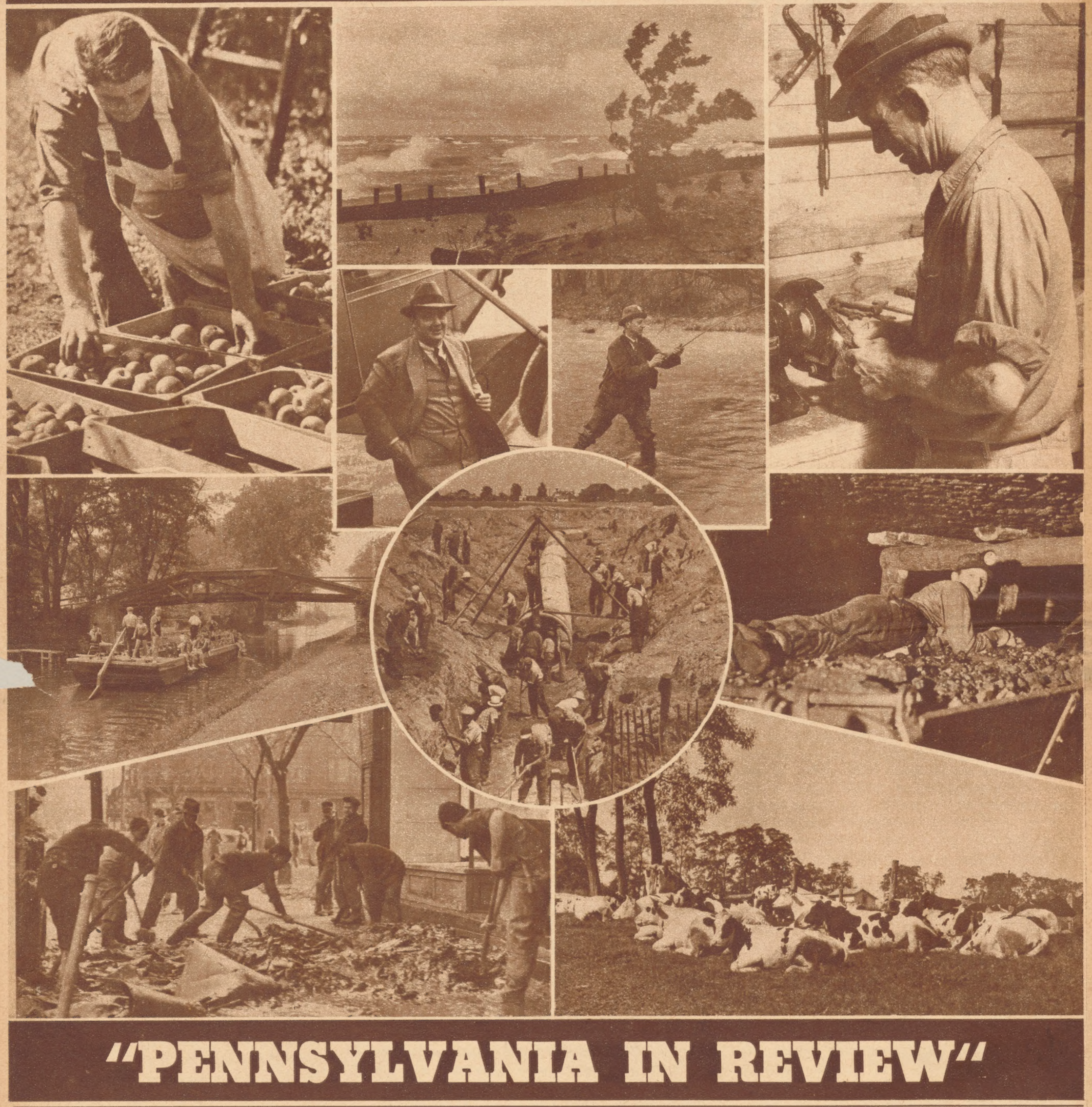
Without a knowledge of the stars, mariners and explorers would lack a true sense of direction, for the compass, popular faith notwithstanding, is no consistently accurate indicator.

Surveyors and map-makers rely upon star lore for their knowledge of the shape and size of the earth: the earth is not the perfectly round orange that schoolboys visualize, but somewhat flattened at both poles.

A strange result of astronomical explorations of space billions of miles away from our planet is the only definite knowledge we have of the earth's insides; not by digging in but by peering out did we gain this insight.

And to many people among those who flock to the Fels Planetarium this month, man's ability to recapture lost horizons will not be the least of his astronomical successes.

WE THE PEOPLE



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